(d) the number of times the item of code of conduct was discussed to make it statutory in the meetings of the political parties convened by Government; and

(e) whether Government have taken note of the judgement of Supreme Court delivered on 25th April, 1994 on confirming powers to Election Commission to enforce the model code of conduct?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) A comprehensive Bill containing proposals on Electoral Reforms including one to give statutory backing to certain provisions of the Model Code of Conduct has been finalised by the Government and is likely to be introduced shortly.

(b) The Model Code of Conduct was formulated in 1968 and is in operation since that time.

(c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) The Model Code of Conduct was among the proposals on electoral reforms considered by the Committee on Electoral Reforms headed by the late Shri Dinesh Goswami, which had representatives of various political parties.

(e) The Supreme Court vide its order dated 25-4-1994 have merely clarified that its earlier interim order dated 4-4 1994 was intended to operate only upto the date of issue of the statutory notification. There is no confirmation by the Supreme Court as to the powers of the Election Commission to enforce the Model Code of Conduct.

**Preparation of format issue of the electral reforms**

7060. SHRI AHMED MOHMED BHAI PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Prime Minister has directed all the Ministries to prepare a format for the electoral reforms in the country so that legislation is introduced during the current session of Parliament;

(b) if so, whether all the electoral reforms suggested by the Chief Election Commissioner from time to time have been considered;

(c) whether Government had initiated discussions with all the political parties for getting opinion on the electoral reforms and whether they have also been considered; and

(d) if so, by when the formula of electoral reforms will be made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b) The Government has finalised a package of Electoral Reforms after taking into account the proposals made from time to time by the Chief Election Commissioner and others.

(c) The proposals on Electoral Reforms have been discussed in the meetings of political parties taken by the speaker on 6.5.94, 10.5.94 and 11.5.94. The Government have also taken into account the views of the political parties while finalising the proposals.

(d) The Government hopes to introduce suitable legislation on Electoral Reforms in the current session of Parliament.

**Suitable Legislation in Regard to Electoral Reforms**

7061. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present position relating to electoral reforms proposed to be made by the Government;

(b) whether Government have taken any decision to bring forward a suitable legislation in this regard during the current session of Parliament; if so, what are the details in this regard;